

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 02093 111552Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 EB-08 AID-05 COME-00 /089 W

-----120059Z 009327 /66

R 111330Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1195

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

HQ CINCPAC HAWAII

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 2093

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: JANATA AND OTHER PARTIES ISSUE THEIR ELECTION MANIFESTOS

REF: NEW DELHI 1902

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING THE ISSUANCE OF THE CONGRESS PARTY'S MANIFESTO ON FEB 8 (REFTTEL), OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE COME OUT WITH THEIR OWN ELECTORAL PLATFORMS. FOR THE MOST PART, THESE DOCUMENTS EXHIBIT A CERTAIN SAMENESS AND IDENTITY OF THEMES WHICH ARE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 02093 111552Z

ALSO FOUND IN THE RULING PARTY'S MANIFESTO: DEMOCRACY AND UPLIFTING THE POOR ARE GOALS WHICH ARE PROCLAIMED BY PARTIES THROUGHOUT THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM. END SUMMARY.

1. THE JANATA PARTY'S MANIFESTO, RELEASED FEB 10 BY CHARAN SINGH, IS A LENGTHY (10,000 WORD) AND HIGHLY DETAILED DOCUMENT WHICH BITTERLY CRITICIZES THE GOVT FOR ITS "REIGN OF TERROR",

PLEDGES TO REPEAL ALL THE EVIL ACTS AND LEGISLATION OF THE EMERGENCY, MAKES A SERIES OF DETAILED PROMISES TO VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE POPULATION, AND GENERALLY CALLS FOR A RETURN TO GANDHIAN PRINCIPLES AND A REINVIGORATION OF RURAL LIFE IN ORDER TO USHER IN A NEW ERA OF GANDHIAN SOCIALISM. REPEATING THE PARTY'S STOCK THEME THAT THE ELECTION IS A CHOICE BETWEEN DEMOCRACY AND DICTATORSHIP, THE JANATA MANIFESTO DECLARES THAT THE EMERGENCY'S ONLY RESULT HAS BEEN TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF FEAR AND INSECURITY AND TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE "TOTAL CONCENTRATION OF POWER IN THE HANDS OF ONE INDIVIDUAL- THE PRIME MINISTER". THE DOCUMENT REFUTES THE GOVT'S CLAIMS ABOUT THE GAINS OF THE EMERGENCY, NOTING THAT THE ECONOMY HAS STAGNATED WHILE PRICES HAVE RISEN. IT STATES THAT THE JANATA PARTY IS COMMITTED TO BUILDING A SOCIALIST STATE IN INDIA AND TO REVIVING DEMOCRACY. TO THIS END, THE MANIFESTO CONTAINS A 19-POINT POLITICAL ACTION PROGRAM UNDER WHICH THE PARTY PROMISES TO INTER ALIA: LIFT THE EMERGENCY, RESTORE FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, REPEAL MISA, RESCIND THE 42ND AMENDMENT, RESTORE THE AUTHORITY OF THE JUDICIARY, ABOLISH CENSORSHIP AND DELETE PROPERTY FROM THE LIST OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, AFFIRMING INSTEAD THE RIGHT TO WORK. THE PARTY PLEDGES TO GIVE PRIMACY TO AGRICULTURE, COTTAGE INDUSTRIES, AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION, "WHICH MUST CONSTITUTE THE BASE OF OUR DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING", AND TO ENSURE THE DECENTRALIZATION OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL POWER. DEDICATED AS IT IS TO THE IDEALS OF MAHATMA GANDHI, THE PARTY WILL ENACT PROGRAMS TO REDISTRIBUTE INCOMES AND WEALTH IN ORDER TO BUILD A "JUST SOCIETY IN WHICH AUSTERITY AND SHARING WILL REPLACE POMP, OSTENTATIOUS CONSUMPTION AND WASTE". WHILE CONCEDING THAT THERE IS ROOM FOR HEAVY INDUSTRY IN THE ECONOMY, THE MANIFESTO STATES THAT EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED ON SMALL-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NEW DE 02093 111552Z

SCALE INDUSTRY AND ON THE APPLICATION OF "APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY".

2. THE CPI MANIFESTO, ISSUED FEB 9, ASCRIBES TO THE PARTY THE ROLE OF CHIEF DEFENDER OF PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY AND CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS. WHILE IT RECOGNIZES THE INITIAL NEED FOR DECLARING THE EMERGENCY AND RENEWS THE CALL FOR IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 20 PROGRAM, THE CPI DOCUMENT GOES TO GREAT LENGTHS TO CASTIGATE THE ABUSES OF EMERGENCY POWERS BY RIGHT REACTIONARY FORCES WITHIN THE RULING PARTY, INCLUDING THE BUILD-UP OF A "PERSONALITY WITH NO OFFICIAL STATUS". (I.E; SANJAY GANDHI) AND THE GOVT'S FAILURE TO PROTECT THE MASSES FROM EXPLOITATION BY VESTED INTERESTS. THE CPI'S ECONOMIC PROGRAM IS ESSENTIALLY A REHASH OF ITS FIVE-POINT PROGRAM AGAINST THE INCREASE IN PRICES.

3. THE SIKH-BASED AKALI DAL PARTY ALSO RELEASED A BRIEF MANIFESTO ON FEB 9. THE DOCUMENT AFFIRMS THE USUAL COMMITMENT TO SOCIALISM, SECULARISM AND DEMOCRACY, CALLS FOR THE RESTORATION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES AND-- PREDICTABLY FOR A PARTY OF THIS TYPE--DEMANDS

FULL PROTECTION OF MINORITY RIGHTS AND THE GRANTING OF GREATER AUTONOMY TO THE STATES BY ENHANCING THE "FEDERAL CHARACTER" OF THE CONSTITUTION.

4. THE CPM'S MANIFESTO, ISSUED JAN 31, OFFERED NO SURPRISES AND CONTAINED THE STANDARD DEMANDS FOR LIFTING THE EMERGENCY, RELEASING ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND ENDING CENSORSHIP. ITS ECONOMIC PROGRAM FOLLOWED A PREDICTABLY "RADICAL" LINE: RURAL REFORMS, TAKEOVER OF FOREIGN BUSINESS CONCERNS, BAN ON ALL FOREIGN INVESTMENT, AND NATIONALIZATION OF MAJOR INDUSTRIES AND BUSINESS HOUSES.

5. FOREIGN POLICY ASPECTS OF MANIFESTOS ARE REPORTED SEPTTEL. SCHNEIDER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NEWDE02093
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770050-0397
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770250/aaaabrwb.tel
Line Count: 130
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 56ecf5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 NEW DELHI 1902
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3342791
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JANATA AND OTHER PARTIES ISSUE THEIR ELECTION MANIFESTOS
TAGS: PINT, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/56ecf5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009